



The Token Hunter

N.U.T.S. National Utah Token Society

Dedicated to the collecting, recording and preserving of Utah's historical medals, tokens, coins and bottles

President's Message



Howdy all! I hope this edition of the Token Hunter finds you and your families well. Our October club meeting will be Thursday, October 25th at 7:00 pm. We will once again be meeting in the AUDITORIUM rather than our normal room. Our guest speaker will be Mr. Lee McKenzie, with a fascinating presentation on symbolism in coins, medals, and tokens. This will be our last finds of the month contest until spring; don't forget to bring in your items found since last meeting. Also, as I mentioned last month, club elections are coming in November. Please consider serving as a club officer and give some thought as to someone you would like to nominate. I've noticed there seems to be a little late season construction and yard maintenance going on here and there. Be sure to get out there and get some hunting in before the ground freezes. Who knows? That next rare token or gold might just end up in your pouch! Until Thursday, take care and we'll see you at the meeting. Mike.



Vick & Julie



N.U.T.S!

2012 Club Officers

President

Mike Morey 801-330-1811
tokenclub@hotmail.com

Vice President

Todd Monson 801-755-3256
tdmh@earthlink.net

Treasurer

Eldon Farnsworth 801-254-2846
agiftman2@yahoo.com

Secretary

Kathy Staker 801-573-8852
kathy.nuts@hotmail.com

Editor

James Staker 801-688-9221
jamesstaker@hotmail.com

Bourse Chairman

Bob Campbell 801-467-8636
allaboutcoins@qwestoffice.net

Web Master/Co-Historian

Johnny Gallegos 435-882-6256
divingbuddy@yahoo.com

Wagon Masters

Bill Carr 801-688-8627
Cliff Fausett 801-561-5487
cfusett@hotmail.com
Bill Glodowski 801-201-8763
thecoinhunter@aol.com
Boyd Pickering 801-808-0949
old76too@gmail.com
Terry Wright 801-209-8040
terrywright@q.com
JJ Valerio 801-301-9982
archedemu@yahoo.com
Alan Staker 801-573-8852
gastake45@gmail.com
Anthony Bos
bosmaniac@aol.com
Medals Chairman
Don Swain 801-967-0750
don swian@q.com

Don't forget about the drawing we will
have lots of great prizes



Don't forget about the
drawing we will have lots of
great prizes including coins,
tokens and **GOLD!**

Finds of the month so bring your
treasures in that you have found this
month

**Please bring in
any Library books
that you have
checked out**

Miscellaneous club news

Auditorium

October 25th @ 6:00 PM

Columbus Community Center

2530 So. 400 E.



Finds of the Month Winners

The Graveyard of the Atlantic

Over the past four centuries, at least 697 ships have come to grief on North Carolina's Outer Banks, the Two-hundred-mile ribbon of barrier islands that separates Pamlico Sound from the Atlantic Ocean. Spanish galleons, British Frigates, American Schooners, all have been snared by shifting shoals and churning water of the Banks, leading mariners to dub that stretch of coast the graveyard of the Atlantic. The Banks treachery derives from their unique position, thrusting into the ocean where cold arctic currents collide with the north flowing subtropical waters of the Gulf Stream. The clash breeds storms, fog, and riotous seas that can toss spume ten stories high. Battered in an underwater maelstrom, the sands off the banks constantly rearrange themselves. In heavy weather, the dread lookout, frying pan, and Diamond shoals can waylay even savvy sailors. More than one hundred wrecks lie buried within twenty miles of cape Hatteras lighthouse. Each testifies to the shoals Wickedness. The first European explorer to chance the Banks was Giovanni da Verrazano, a Florentine seeking a rout to the Orient in 1524. He escaped unscathed. But two years later, in June 1526, a brigantine carrying settlers to the Spanish colony of Chicora on the Cape Fear River was swallowed by the Banks. This tragedy was only the beginning. As the gold trade reached full flood and Spanish captains sought to speed their passage home by riding the Gulf Stream, more and more ships succumbed. Ironically perhaps because they had no choice many who survived wrecks on the Outer Banks settled there, in the thickly vegetated hammocks that lay on the sheltered inland side of the dunes. Among live oaks, wax myrtle, and prickly pear, they built one room houses and cultivated large gardens. The Bankers, as they were known, made their living fishing and, if the tales are true, did a brisk trade in a pursuit called wrecking. They reputedly lured ships to disaster by a variety of stratagems. Torches carried down the beach at night, for instance, might persuade a passing captain to draw nearer to what he supposed to be a fellow traveler. He would soon find himself aground, his ship stranded and pillaged. The Bankers bad reputation stemmed in part from the exploits of miscreants such as Stebe Bonnet, Calico Jack Rackham, and Edward Teach, also known as Blackbeard. In the eighteenth century, these colorful scoundrels discovered that the islands made perfect blinds for their piratical forays. However, most Bankers probably engaged in brigandage infrequently if only because the Banks provides steady supply of salvage from ships that foundered at the unaided hand of nature. Today, skeletal hulks and surf line, while countless other wrecks, undocumented and uncharted haunt the shifting sands. After storms, beachcombers may find pottery shards and bits of glass, worn timbers, brass fittings, and sometimes even coins small tokens of lost fortunes entombed in the graveyard of the Atlantic.

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HOLABIRD-KAGIN AMERICANA



3555 Airway Drive #308, Reno, NV 89511
(775) 852-8822 Toll-Free: (877) 852-8822 Fax: (775) 852-8866
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- Also Known As **Trade Tokens** ~ Pocket-sized, full color, illustrated introduction to collecting western pioneer minor coinage. Provides a general knowledge of the history and evolution of private minor coinage and tokens due to the western coin shortage that resulted from the California Gold Rush. The different types of tokens and main collecting categories are discussed, as well as the coiners, the shapes, sizes and denominations, condition expectations, and more. Blank collection tables and note pages. A handy reference and great beginner's guide to token collecting.

The Collecting Guide to the Pioneer Minor Coinage of American Saloons ~ full color publication filled with saloon history, early photographs, 100-year old advertisements and directory listings, Wild West saloon stories, population information, top ten lists, rarity ratings, tables to inventory and catalog your collection and more! This book will be an invaluable reference for saloon token collectors and a great compliment to saloon token directories.

For a Complete listing of current Auctions, Catalogs, Publications and upcoming sales and events visit us at

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We work hard to open the exciting token collecting field to both new and experienced collectors. Our parent company Kagin's, a major numismatic dealer, has helped us introduce tokens as pioneer minor coinage to the traditional coin collecting market. We believe token collecting is one of the last untapped coin collecting fields, with an unlimited amount of potential. Our auction house has set the standard for token values over the last 20 years and the market value has increased exponentially. We are here to help you buy and sell all types of trade tokens and to help you explore the fun and exciting world of pioneer minor coinage.



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